



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of:) Before the Examiner
Richard Flieger et al.)
Serial No. 09/762,138)
Filed: March 29, 2002) Group Art Unit: 2833
International Filing Date: July 1, 1999)
Bushing Contact)

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Applicants hereby submit the attached documents listed on the attached PTO Form 1449 in accordance with 37 CFR §1.97(b)(3), as these documents are being submitted before the first Office Action. Copies of the cited items are enclosed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in § 1.56(b), or that these documents are prior art.

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It is believed that no fee is required for consideration of the submitted items. Should any fee be required, however, please charge such fee to Deposit Account No. 02-0387, but not to include any payment of issue fees.

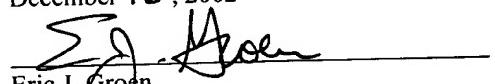
Respectfully submitted,



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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231 on:

December 16, 2002


Eric J. Groen

Dated: December 16, 2002